

FISCAL NOTE

HB 2491 - SB 2656

March 6, 2002

SUMMARY OF BILL: Deletes current provisions and requires a health facility that receives an unwanted infant to positively identify the person abandoning the child by obtaining a drivers license and a social security number. If the person does not provide identification, the facility is required to detain the person for police. Current law provides that a person voluntarily delivering an unharmed infant to a health facility is not required to provide identifying information and no criminal prosecution shall be based upon a mother delivering an unharmed infant in full compliance with the current provisions. The bill removes the 30-day period during which revocation, visitation, or a paternity claim must be made. Termination of parental rights must be made either by voluntary surrender or determination of grounds for termination in the best interest of the child has been established.

ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT:

Increase State Expenditures - \$9,600/Incarceration*
Increase Local Govt. Expenditures - Not Significant

Estimate assumes one person per year will be subject to criminal prosecution and conviction for child abuse and neglect, a Class D felony and one person convicted of contributing to the dependency of a minor, a Class A misdemeanor.

**Section 9-4-210, TCA, requires that: For any law enacted after July 1, 1986, which results in a net increase in periods of imprisonment in state facilities, there shall be appropriated from recurring revenues the estimated operating cost of such law. The amount appropriated for operating cost, in current dollars, shall be based upon the highest cost of the next 10 years, beginning with the year the additional sentence to be served impacts the correctional facilities population.*

CERTIFICATION:

This is to duly certify that the information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.



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James A. Davenport, Executive Director

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